

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 05491 161005Z

44

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9968

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONGEN ISTANBUL

AMCONGEN IZMIR

EUCOM

CINCUSAFE

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN

USIA WASHDC

USNMR SHAPE

UNCLAS ANKARA 5491

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, TU, CY, GR

SUBJECT: TURKISH PRESS COVERAGE OF EMBARGO AND CYPRUS
DEVELOPMENT

1. MAJOR TURKISH DAILIES WEDNESDAY (JULY 16) GAVE TOP FRONT
PAGE PLAY TO TODAY'S SCHEDULED MEETINGS OF THE TURKISH
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL AND CABINET, AT WHICH THE
"PROVISIONAL STATUS" OF U.S. INSTALLATIONS WILL BE
DETERMINED.

2. COVERAGE IN MOST PAPERS MERELY REPORTED THAT THE
MEETINGS WOULD TAKE PLACE AND NOTED THAT THE AS-YET-
UNANNOUNCED PROVISIONAL STATUS WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE THURS-
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PAGE 02 ANKARA 05491 161005Z

DAY. THERE WAS REMARKABLY LITTLE PRESS SPECULATION ABOUT

THE DETAILS OF THE PROVISIONAL STATUS. CUMHURIYET'S LEAD STORY SAID THAT THE MATTER HAS BEEN SURROUNDED BY GREAT SECRECY BECAUSE THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT WANT THE PUBLIC TO NOTICE ITS MILD TREATMENT OF THE AMERICANS. HOWEVER, CUMHURIYET SAID IT HAD LEARNED FROM "NEWS LEAKS" AND "CIRCLES CLOSE TO THE ISSUE" THAT THE PROVISIONAL STATUS WOULD INCLUDE SUSPENSION OF OPERATIONS AT SOME INSTALLATIONS OF SECONDARY IMPORTANCE AND THE PLACEMENT UNDER DIRECT TURKISH COMMAND OF SUCH INSTALLATIONS AS PIRINCLIK. CUMHURIYET ALSO ALLEGED THAT IN A RECENT TELEPHONE CALL, SECRETARY KISSINGER HAD TOLD FOREIGN MINISTER CAGLAYANGIL THAT A TOUGH LINE BY TURKEY COULD BRING RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. TO AN IMPASSE.

3. IN OTHER COVERAGE, MILLIYET NOTED THAT FOREIGN MINISTER CAGLAYANGIL HAD RETURNED TO ANKARA BEFORE THE CONCLUSION OF THE ILAMIC MEETING IN JIDDAH IN ORDER TO ATTEND TODAY'S MEETINGS. IN ANSWER TO A QUESTION ABOUT WHETHER TOUGH ACTION BY TURKEY MIGHT HURT THE CHANCES OF THE LIFTING OF THE ARMS EMBARGO BY THE U.S. CONGRESS, CAGLAYANGIL REPORTEDLY REPLIED: "I DON'T THINK THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS TEST OF PATIENCE AND FORBEARANCE ON THIS TOPIC. WE WON'T ABANDON THIS BEHAVIOR."

4. MILLIYET IN THE SAME STORY NOTED THE ARRIVAL IN ANKARA OF AMBASSADOR MACOMBER. IT QUOTED HIM AS SAYING THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AND SOME MEMBERS OF CONGRESS ARE WAGING AN ALL OUT CAMPAIGN TO LIFT THE EMBARGO AND THAT HE HAD NEVER SEEN THE GOVERNMENT ACT WITH SUCH PERSISTENCE AND INTENSITY ON AN ISSUE. HE WAS ALSO QUOTED AS SAYING THAT HE HAD RETURNED "ENCOURAGED" FROM HIS TRIP TO WASHINGTON.

5. THERE WAS NO SIGNIFICANT EDITORIAL COVERAGE ON THE EMBARGO IN WEDNESDAY EDITIONS.

6. IN OTHER COVERAGE WEDNESDAY, CONSERVATIVE TERCUMAN CARRIED AN ATHENS-DATELINED STORY SAYING THAT THERE WAS A STRONG POSSIBILITY THAT PRIME MINISTER DEMIREL AND KARAMANLIS WOULD MEET AT THE CSCE SUMMIT JULY 30. THE STORY CITED "ATHENS DIPLOMATIC SOURCES."

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PAGE 03 ANKARA 05491 161005Z

7. WEDNESDAY EDITIONS OF THE TURKISH PRESS GAVE RELATIVELY LITTLE COVERAGE TO MEETINGS AND DEMONSTRATIONS ON CYPRUS ON THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE SAMPSON COUP. IN A COMMENTARY NOTING THE ANNIVERSARY, CUMHURIYET COLUMNIST ALI SIRMEN SAID THAT THROUGH THE COUP, THE GREEK JUNTA HAD INTENDED TO MAKE CYPRUS A NATO BASE, DISCREDIT ECEVIT, AND MAKE ATHENS-NICOSIA-ANKARA A "FASCIST TRIANGLE."

MACOMBER

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